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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard J. Ericson

Serial No. 09/162,821

Filing Date: September 29, 1998

CLAP 4/18/00  
Docket: OT-4331

Date: April 18, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3652

Examiner: S. McAllister

Title: ELEVATOR SYSTEM HAVING DRIVE MOTOR LOCATED BELOW THE ELEVATOR CAR

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

April 18, 2000

*Elizabeth A. Cullen*  
Signature

April 18, 2000

Date

AMENDMENT A

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2000, having a shortened period of response set to expire April 18, 2000, please amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 1.

2. An elevator system comprising:

an elevator hoistway defined by surrounding structure;

an elevator car and counterweight located in the hoistway; and

a drive motor including a drive sheave located at a bottom portion of the hoistway, the drive motor being coupled to the elevator car and the counterweight via at least one flat rope for moving the elevator car upwardly and downwardly along the hoistway [An elevator system as defined in claim 1], wherein the at least one flat rope includes a suspension rope coupled to the elevator car and the counterweight, and a drive rope engaging the drive sheave for moving the elevator car along the suspension rope.